

WASHINGTON, DC – Last night, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) spoke on the House Floor

“In fewer than four months, Southern Sudan will hold a referendum on independence, which was guaran

“Now as on my Congressional delegation to Sudan three years ago, our focus remains the same: promo

“Tonight we are here to send a message to all those who live in and care about Sudan. We support full i

“I want to be absolutely clear: Darfur remains a priority for this Congress. We recognize that peacekeep

“Tonight, however, I want to focus my remarks on the need for full C.P.A. implementation, and, specifica

“With the referendum approaching on January 9, 2011, our own Secretary of State has said that we can

What can we do to prevent it? The U.S. has stepped up its diplomatic efforts in Southern Sudan, and is p

“I also applaud President Obama for attending Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon’s high-level meeting on S

“My hope is that a powerful package of multilateral pressures and incentives will come out of this meeting

“But more can and must be done: we must hurry to establish a formal mechanism to help get the North a

“Finally, efforts in South Sudan must not be solely focused on the day of the referendum—but also on th

“But regardless of the steps we and the international community take, the decision to turn this vote into a

“To the Government of Southern Sudan: the U.S. Congress is committed to the referendum and firmly b

“To the Obama Administration and the international community: thank you for your efforts to strengthen

“To the humanitarian community, especially the American-based NGOs working on the ground in Sudan

“And finally, to the people of Sudan: we stand with you. You deserve far more than the bloodshed and d

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